SABAZIA BREEDLOVEI (ASTERACEAE, HELIANTHEAE), A NEW SPECIES FROM GUERRERO, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

A new species of Sabazia, S. breedlovei B.L. Turner, from Guerrero, México, is described and illustrated. It is known only by a single collection and reportedly occurs along stream sides in pine-oak forests at ca. 2000 m. The taxon is believed to be closely related to S. macdonaldii of Oaxaca, but is readily distinguished from the latter by its subscapose habit and achenes which possess a pappus of ca. 20 persistent lanceolate scales 3-5 mm long (vs. pappus absent).

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Heliantheae, Sabazia, México, Guerrero, systematics

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following novelty.

SABAZIA BREEDLOVEI B.L. Turner, spec. nov. TYPE: MEXICO. Guerrero: "Slope with Pinus and Quercus along stream 35.5 km NW of Filo de Caballo along road to Atoyac," 1980 m, 11 Oct 1986, D.E. Breedlove & F. Almeda 65204 (HOLOTYPE: CAS!).

Similis S. macdonaldii B.L. Turner sed subscaposa est et achenia cum pappo persistenti squamarum 2-3 mm longarum habet (vice achenia epapposa habendi).

Perennial erect herbs to 40 cm high, the stems arising from a pronounced fibrous root system. Midstems sparsely to densely hirsute with white hairs 2-3 mm long. Leaves mostly basal or subbasal, the rather naked scapes bearing only 1 or 2 pairs of reduced leaves, the lateral leafy off-shoots from the crown of the roots presumably layering (i.e., rooting at the nodes), the larger basal leaves 6-7 cm long, 3-4 cm wide, sessile or nearly so; blades elliptic to elliptic-obovate, widest at or above the middle, 3-nervate from 3-8 mm above the base, moderately hirsute above and below, the



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Figure 1. Sabazia breedlovei, holotype.

margins minutely denticulate. Heads 2-3, borne on nearly naked scapes ca. 38 cm high (the scapes with 1-2 pairs of reduced leaves), the ultimate tomentose peduncles (in fruit) 5-8 cm long. Involucres broadly campanulate, ca. 7.5 mm high, 10 mm across; bracts 3-seriate, imbricate, the outer series ovate, hispidulous, ca. 5 mm high, 3 mm wide, the inner series broadly lanceolate, ca. 7 mm long, 6-8 nervate, moderately pubescent. Receptacle broadly conical, ca. 2.5 mm high, 3.5 mm across; pales only weakly persistent, lanceolate, 5-6 mm long. Ray florets 8, pistillate, fertile; tubes ca. 2.5 mm long, densely pubescent with silky hairs; ligules ca. 10 mm long, white or rosy white (drying), the apices with 2-3 irregular teeth 1-3 mm long. Achenes (immature) of ray and disk florets similar, ca. 2.5 mm long, obpyramidal, minutely striate, moderately pubescent throughout with ascending hairs, the carpopodium asymmetrical; pappus of ca. 20 markedly persistent narrowly lanceolate scales 2-5 mm long.

As indicated in the diagnosis, this taxon is closely related to Sabazia macdonaldii but can be distinguished by its subscapose habit and markedly pappose achenes. It is named for Dennis Breedlove, well-known Mexican botanist working out of CAS.

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